

1 **(C) AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

2 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic stylus apparatus comprising:
3 a portable power source;
4 connected to the power source, at least one electrode for producing a localized,
5 ~~eminating~~ emanating, electric field wherein the field is of a strength sufficient to reorient
6 electronic picture elements formed of an electrically bistable, molecular colorant.

7 2. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
8 connected between said power source and said electrode electronic circuitry for
9 switching the polarity of said electric field.

10 3. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
11 connected between said power source and said electrode electronic circuitry for
12 selectively varying the intensity of said electric field.

13 4. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
14 said at least one electrode is adapted for writing and erasing electrically bistable,
15 bichromal, molecular colorant.

16 5. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
17 a hand-held cylindrical pencil shaped body wherein said power source and
18 electrode are incorporated therein such that said apparatus is used in the manner of a
19 conventional writing instrument.

20 6. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
21 electronic circuitry for maintaining a substantially constant electronic field output
22 of the apparatus.

1 7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for electronic erasable writing, the method
2 comprising:

3 providing a surface having picture elements defined by a bistable, ~~[[bichromal,]]~~
4 molecular colorant element~~[[s]]~~; and

5 moving a portable, ~~[[perpendicular]]~~ electrical fringe field, emanating
6 substantially perpendicular to said surface and tuned ~~[[to]]~~ for changing orientation of
7 molecules of the colorant element~~[[s,]]~~ across said surface in a manner substantially
8 identical to conventional handwriting.

9 8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 7 comprising:

10 providing a writing-erasing instrument for producing said perpendicular fringe
11 field such that said field is localized to ~~[[emanating]]~~ emanating from a tip of said
12 instrument.

13 9. (ORIGINAL) The method as set forth in claim 7 comprising:

14 switching polarity of said perpendicular fringe field from a first polarity for writing
15 operations to a second polarity for erasing operations.

16 10. (ORIGINAL) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein the strength of the
17 perpendicular fringe field is tunable such that the marking pixel width and erasing pixel
18 width of said tip is adjustable.

19 11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein providing
20 said surface includes using a bistable, bichromal, molecular colorant.

21 12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An erasable writing system comprising:

22 an electronically writable-erasable surface having a layer of bistable, bichromal,
23 molecular colorant thereon; and

1 a [~~poratable~~] portable, electronic stylus adapted for writing and erasing said
2 colorant.

3 13. (ORIGINAL) The system as set forth in claim 12, said colorant comprising:
4 a molecular system, said system including electrochromic, switchable molecules,
5 each of said molecules being selectively switchable between at least two optically
6 distinguishable states, wherein said system is distributable on the substrate thereby
7 forming an erasably writable surface.

8 14. (ORIGINAL) The system as set forth in claim 13 comprising:
9 said molecules exhibit an electric field induced band gap change.

10 15. (ORIGINAL) The system as set forth in claim 14 comprising:
11 said electric field induced band gap change occurs via a mechanism selected
12 from a group including (1) molecular conformation change or an isomerization, (2)
13 change of extended conjugation via chemical bonding change to change the band gap,
14 and (3) molecular folding or stretching.

15 16. (NEW) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, said colorant comprising:
16 a molecular system, said system including electrochromic, switchable molecules,
17 each of said molecules being selectively switchable between at least two optically
18 distinguishable states, wherein said system is distributable on the substrate thereby
19 forming an erasably writable surface.

20 17. (NEW) The apparatus as set forth in claim 16 comprising:
21 said molecules exhibit an electric field induced band gap change.

1 18. (NEW) The apparatus as set forth in claim 17 comprising:
2 said electric field induced band gap change occurs via a mechanism selected
3 from a group including (1) molecular conformation change or an isomerization, (2)
4 change of extended conjugation via chemical bonding change to change the band gap,
5 and (3) molecular folding or stretching.